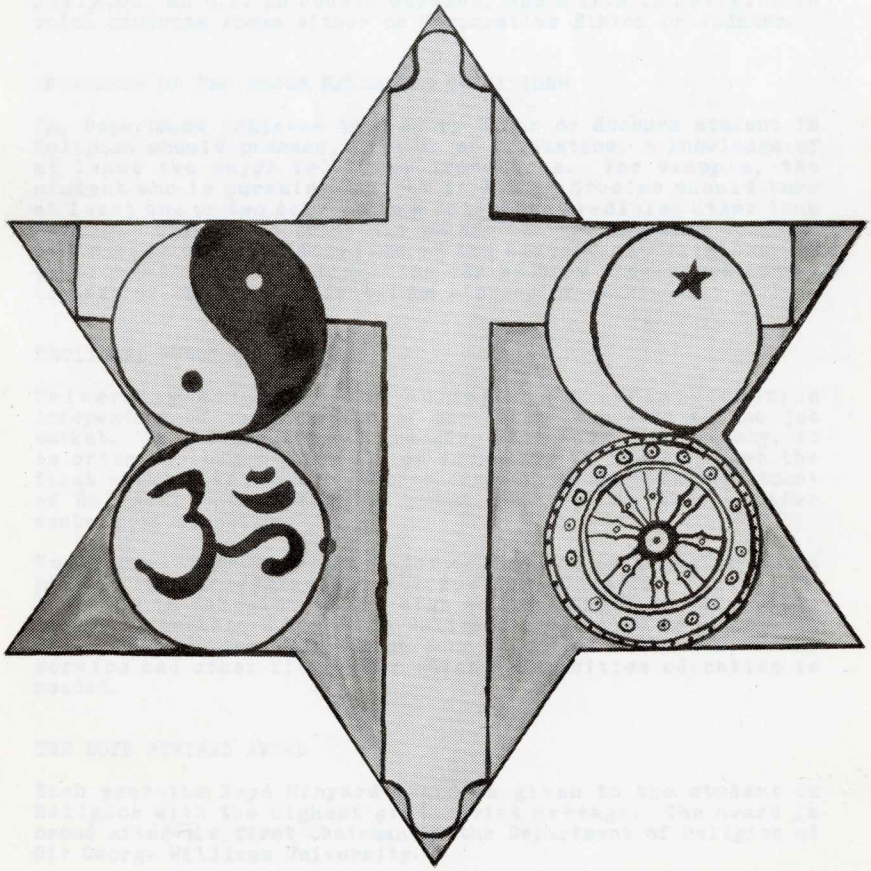
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

ARTS AND SCIENCE
RELIGION



1987-88

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT

Many of the institutions, mores and values of modern societies are grounded in religious traditions of the world. Through religions, humans have variously attempted to connect their life patterns with some ultimate view of reality. To understand diverse cultures of the world, it is important to try to comprehend the religious traditions which inform them.

The Department of Religion offers a variety of courses in the areas of the world religions, ethical issues and religions and cultures. We offer introductory courses in World Religions, the History of Judaism and Understanding Religion. We also have courses that focus on particular religious traditions (Modern Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism) and on particular topics (Religion and Art in China and Japan, Major Psychological Theories of Religion, Religion and Healing, Women and Religion).

In addition to the undergraduate majors and honours programs in Religion and in Judaic Studies, and joint majors and honours programs, the Department of Religion offers several graduate programs: a Diploma in Theological, Religious and Ethical Studies (together with the Philosophy and Theology Departments), an M.A. in the History and Philosophy of Religion, an M.A. in Judaic Studies, and a Ph.D in Religion in which students focus either on Comparative Ethics or Judaism.

KNOWLEDGE OF TWO MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

The Department believes that every Major or Honours student in Religion should possess, at time of graduation, a knowledge of at least two major religious traditions. For example, the student who is pursuing a Major in Juadic Studies should take at least one or two courses in a religious tradition other than Judaism. This basic principle reinforces the emphasis upon the centrality of the discipline of the History of Religions. A particular religious tradition can be best understood in the context of the general religious history of mankind.

EMOTIONAL FUNCTION

University education has an important social function independent of the relation of particular subjects to the job market. In the complex and changing culture of our society, it is often no longer possible or necessary to tie at least the first university degree to vocational training. The Department of Religion then, sees its prime function in this broader context of education.

Vocationally, however, a Major or Honours in Religion could prepare the undergraduate for further education leading to teaching in religion at the high school, CEGEP or university level. A bachelors degree in Religion could also be of benefit for undergraduates who plan careers in social work, law, civil service and other fields for which a Humanities education is needed.

THE BOYD SINYARD AWARD

Each year the Boyd Sinyard award is given to the student in Religion with the highest grade-point average. The award is named after the first chairman of the Department of Religion at Sir George Williams University.

THE JANIE COOPER MEMORIAL LECTURE IN JUDAIC STUDIES

Each year a prominent scholar in Judaic Studies comes to Concordia to deliver a lecture. The lectureship was endowed in memory of a former Judaic Studies at Concordia by her husband, Howard Cooper.

FACULTY

A list of the full-time faculty follows below. All degrees from universities and/or schools of advanced studies that represent the best academic centres for the study of religion in Canada, the United States, Great Britain and Europe. Several have published books that have made a contribution to their particular fields of study; all have published in learned journals and have given papers at learned societies. They have also won the reputation among their students for being good teachers, concerned about the quality of instruction at Concordia University, as well as for being a faculty that is "available" and is committed to the development of a more meaningful student life.

FULL TIME FACULTY

Professors

Charles Davis, S.T.L. (Gregorian, Rome)
Michel Despland, Th.D. (Harvard)
Sheila McDonough, Ph.D. (McGill)

Chairman

Michael Oppenheim, Ph.D. (University of California)

Associate Professors

Frederick Bird, Ph.D. (Graduate Theological Union)
Jack Lightstone, Ph.D. (Brown)
David Miller, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Ira Robinson, Ph.D. (Harvard)
John Rossner, Ph.D. (Heed)

Assistant Professors

Lynn Teskey, D.Phil. (Oxford)

Lecturers

N. Joseph
H. Joseph
M. Saunders-Oppenheim

Adjunct Associate Professors

J.B. Lightman
D. Rome

Adviser

L. Teskey - Undergraduate Religion and Judaic Studies (848 - 2072)

Religion 211/3 -A (6 credits) Tues. Thurs. 11:45-
UNDERSTANDING RELIGION 13:00

Michael Oppenheim, Chair
Associate Professor

This year we will be investigating the nature and meaning of religion by examining "personal documents", that is, diaries, journals, memoirs, and autobiographies of religious people. To aid us in understanding these documents some classical models of psychological interpretation will be utilized, including the insights of Freud and Jung. Focal points of our study include:
(a) ways in which being religious differentiates some men and women from others,
(b) differences between Freudian and Jungian interpretations of religious experience,
(c) "self-concepts" which seem to have dominance in selected personal documents,
(d) the relationship between the dynamics of the religious life and societal change,
(e) similarities and differences between the ways that religious men understand themselves and the self-understanding of women,
(f) the relationship between religious experience and psychological 'abnormality',
(g) and ways in which models of religious formation both differ and coalesce in eastern and western religious traditions.

Requirements:

It is essential that students follow the outline of the readings for each week. Class discussion will be the primary method of investigation and significant questions will only be raised and answered through the active participation of all. There will be a term paper and a take-home examination for each term. For the term paper students will be asked to select personal documents from a religious person not treated in class and to illuminate and analyze the religious development of the selected individual. The paper should be approximately ten to fifteen typed pages, and a list of suggested subjects as well as a more detailed statement of the assignment will be handed out at a later time. The take-home examinations will be handed out toward the end of each term. They will ask for careful reflection on some of the issues that have arisen in class during the preceding weeks.

Texts: (Tentative)

Martin Buber, I and Thou
Capps & Capps ed., The Religious Personality
J. Campbell, The Hero With a Thousand Faces
Erik Erikson, Gandhi's Truth
M. Gandhi, An Autobiography
St. Theresa, My Life

Religion 213/3 -AA (6 credits) Thurs. 18:05-20:10
MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OF THE WORLD

Professor D. Miller

Objective

This course will begin with a brief introduction to Robert Bellah's typology of religions. Once the basic theoretical structure of the course has been established, the focus of the lectures and readings will be upon the Hindu and Buddhist traditions. For means of comparison, however, the course will end with a consideration of the Biblical World View that is essential in understanding Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Those students who might wish to do a more in-depth study of Judaism, Christianity and Islam are referred to: Religion 222, 313, 319, 327-330, 361-363. Considerable use will be made of movies and slides in order to provide a visual presentation of the religious traditions to be studied, and guest lecturers will appear at various times to present special topics.

Evaluation

A. Two long-answer take-home examinations
B. One In-class examination
C. One short-answer take-home examination.

Main Texts: (listed in order of reading assignments)
Robert Bellah "Religious "Evolution"
Robert Baird and Alfred Bloom. Indian and Far Eastern Religious Traditions
Walpola Rahula. What the Buddha Taught.

Religion 222/3 - 01 (6 credits) M-W- 14:45-16:00 (Loy)
INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM: AN HISTORICAL
SURVEY OF JUDAISM FROM THE BIBLICAL AGE TO THE MODERN PERIOD

Professor Ira Robinson

This course offers a year-long survey of the history of the Jewish people and of Judaism from earliest times until the present. It will focus on sociological and intellectual developments,examining both continuities and change in Jewish society, concepts, institutions and traditions through the ages.

Requirements:

1. Class Attendance
2. Four essays (two per semester: 5 typewritten pages apiece) on topics to be announced.

Book List:

J. Goldin (ed.), The Jewish Expression (Yale U. Press)
Robert Seltzer, Jewish People, Jewish Thought (Macmillan)
Other assigned readings will be made available in xerox form.

Religion A298/2 -A (3 credits) WE. 11:45-13:00
SPECIAL TOPIC:
RELIGION AND POLITICS IN AMERICA (Also given as POLI A298)

Professor Sheila McDonough

The interaction of politics and religion in the age of the Puritans, the enlightenment and the American Constitution, the revivals, the civil war, abolitionism and women's suffrage, the social gospel, the rise of fundamentalism and the moral majority will be discussed. The contentious issues at present such as abortion, creationism, the peace movement and sanctuary will be looked at from a variety of perspectives.

Requirements:

One mid-term exam (40%) and a final exam (60%).

Book List:

F. Conway, Holy Terror
xeroxed handouts.

Religion 298D/2 - ZA (3 credits) M.18:30-20:30
SPECIAL TOPIC: THE CULTURE OF EARLY QUEBEC JEWS (SBC)

Professor David Rome

The Anglophone background of the pioneers; the religion of western Jewry; Sephardi Jewry; American Jewry in gestation; the deSolas; the advent of reform.

Requirements: Take-home exam; essays; supplementary readings.

Book List: To be announced.

Religion 298E/4 - ZA (3 credits) M. 18:30-20:30
SPECIAL TOPIC: THE FLOWERING OF THE CULTURE OF QUEBEC JEWS (SBC)

Professor David Rome

The stimuli behind the great migration; Yiddish culture being born; ideologies; Yiddish literature; the demographic force behind the decline of Yiddish culture; the Jewish faith of Canadian culture.

Requirements: Take-home exam; essays; supplementary readings.

Book List: To be announced.

Reli 298F/2-A (3 credits) T.J. 13:15-14:30
SPECIAL TOPIC: JUDAIC LAW AND SOCIETY

Simcha Fishbane, Lecturer

This course will explore the development of Rabbinic law from a sociological and anthropological perspective. It will examine issues as marital relations, Jew-Gentile relationships, the attitudes towards the non-observant Jew and Jewish holidays. We will focus on the implication of Judaic law for contemporary North American Jews.

Requirements: To be announced at the first class.

Readings: will be supplied.

Reli 298G/4-A (3 credits) T.J. 13:15-14:30
SPECIAL TOPIC: JEWISH ATTITUDE TO NON-JEWS

Simcha Fishbane, Lecturer

This course will examine the Jewish attitude towards the Gentile from the middle ages until the present with an emphasis on contemporary Judaism. It will examine Judaic law concerned with this subject from a social-anthropological perspective. Of particular interest will be the topics of social interactions, marital relations, the Sabbath and economic relationships.

Requirements: to be announced at the first class.

Readings: will be supplied.

Religion 301/2 -AA (3 credits) Wed. 16:05-17:55
THE HEBREW BIBLE

Professor Jack Lightstone

The Hebrew Bible represents a 'party' document; that is, it speaks for the policies and world-view of a particular group among the Ancient Israelites, offering its ideology against competing conceptions and definitions. This course will introduce students to the Scriptures of Ancient Judaism; we locate its content and the literary processes which produced the Bible within the social and historical contexts of Ancient Israelite culture. Of interest too will be the role these documents themselves played in the various definitions and redefinitions of the Israelite world during this period.

Requirements:

In addition to participating in class and completion of assigned readings, students will submit (take-home) mid-term and final examinations.

Book List:

The Oxford Annotated Bible, with Apocrypha (if no Bible already is owned)
J. Kenneth Kuntz, People of Ancient Israel, (N.Y.: Harper and Row, 1974)

Religion 302/4 -AA (3 credits) Wed. 16:05-17:55
THE NEW TESTAMENT

Professor to be announced.

This course will provide students with an introduction to the principal works of the New Testament. Students will be introduced to the historical setting and background of early Christianity. The course will analyze the major works of the New Testament from a historical perspective, roughly in relation to the order in which modern scholars judge that they were originally written.

We will read the principal books of the New Testament in conjunction with: (1) a systematic and topically sequential reading of the textbook; and, (2) in-class lectures, questions, and exegesis of selected sections of the New Testament books.

Requirements and book list to be announced.

Religion 311/3 -AA (6 credits) M. 18:05-20:10
THE RELIGIONS OF INDIA CEYLON & S/E ASIA

Professor Lynn Teskey

This course focuses on religious life and thought in South Asia with particular emphasis on Hinduism. It also examines Jainism and Buddhism, both of which originated in India, and touches on the impact of Islam on that country. The goal is to familiarize students with both the basic ideas and philosophies of South Asian religions and their socio-religious institutions. Emphasis is thus placed on these religions both as systems of belief and as ways of life.

Requirements: for each term - one test; one essay or book review; one take-home exam.

Book List

Fenton, J.Y., et al, 1983, Religions of Asia
N.Y.: St. Martin's Press.
Kinsley, David, 1982. Hinduism: A Cultural Perspective.
Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall.
deBary, Theod (gen. ed.) 1967 Sources of Indian Tradition 2 vol. New York: Columbia University Press.

Religion 313/3 - AA (6 credits) T. 16:05-17:55
Professor Sheila McDonough

This is an introductory course to the religion of Islam. The Qur'an and the life of the Prophet Muhammad will be studied in detail. Medieval theology, philosophy and law will be discussed. Finally, various contemporary Muslim religious thinkers, liberal, conservative and fundamentalist will be studied.

Requirements:

Two term papers (20%) each and two take-home (30% each) exams.

Book List:

A.J. Arberry, The Koran Interpreted
Fazlur Rahman, Major Themes of the Qur'an
Fazlur Rahman, Islam

Religion 317/2 - AA (3 credits) Thurs. 20:25-22:30
TIBET AND JAPANESE RELIGIOUS
THOUGHT & INSTITUTIONS

Professor David Miller

The course will begin with a brief introduction to the life and teachings of Siddhartha Gautama (Shakyamuni), the founder of Buddhism, in India. The focus of the course however, will be upon the development of Buddhism in Tibet and Japan and upon its interaction with indigenous religious traditions. Considerable use will be made of 35 mm. slides and films in order to provide students with a visual understanding of the religious traditions of Tibet and Japan and guest lecturers will be invited to speak on specialized topics.

Requirements:

Two take-home exams: 1) 25% of course grade. 2) 75% of course grade.

Religion 318/2 - A (3 credits) T-J-14:45-16:00
RELIGION AND ART IN INDIA, CHINA,
AND JAPAN

Laurence Nixon, Lecturer

The religious art works of Asia will be considered in their philosophical, mythological and ritual contexts. Background lectures will be given on Hindu, Buddhist and Taoist beliefs and practices and there will be visits to a Hindu temple and a Buddhist pagoda. Special emphasis will be placed on works in the permanent collection of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and there will be at least one visit to the Museum. Special topics to be covered will include the expression of Zen Buddhist beliefs in Chinese landscape painting and an examination of the various explanations proposed for the erotic sculpture found on medieval Hindu temples.

Requirements:
1) A research paper on the function of a painting or sculpture in a specific Hindu or Buddhist ritual in Montreal.
2) A research paper on a work from the Asian collection of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

Book List: To be announced.

Religion 326/4 - AA (3 credits) Wed 18:05-20:10
CLASSICAL JUDAISM

Professor Jack Lightstone

The concepts, institutions and literature of classical rabbinic Judaism (circa 70-700 C.E.) viewed against rabbinism's biblical and pharisaic background and in the context of the world of Late Antiquity. The course will examine the development of rabbinic systems of thought and law as preserved primarily in the Mishnah and the Talmud. Consideration will be given as well to popular rabbinic beliefs and practices and to early rabbinic mysticism.

Requirements and Book List to be announced.

Religion 328/2 - AA (3 credits) Wed. 18:05-20:10
MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT AND INSTITUTIONS I

Professor Howard Joseph

This course will explore the beginnings of the confrontation of the Jewish people with the modern world. What was gained, and what was lost when the Jews abandoned communal autonomy and sought to become citizens of the modern state? What options did Jews have at this juncture and how was Judaism altered in the process? How did European society react to the new Jewish presence? These questions and more will be discussed in an attempt to understand the social and intellectual events which shaped Modern Jewish history.

Requirements: Mid-term Examination and a take-home final.

Book List:
Mendes-Flohr and Reinharz - The Jew in the Modern World (Oxford University Press, 1980) - required
Michael Meyer, Origins of the Modern Jew (Detroit, Wayne State University Press, 1967) - Recommended
Jacob Katz, Tradition and Crisis (New York, Schocken, 1971) - Recommended
Jacob Katz, Out of the Ghetto (Cambridge, Mass. Harvard Univ. Press, 1973) - Required
Howard M. Sachar, The Course of Modern Jewish History (Delta, 1973) - Recommended.

Religion 330/4 - AA (3 credits) Wed. 18:05-20:10
MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT AND
INSTITUTIONS II

Professor Howard Joseph

This course will focus on the reaction of the significant modern Jewish thinkers to both the continuing challenges that were inherited from the period of Emancipation and the historic events of their own time. The schedule of topics and readings has already been indicated on the syllabus. Students are expected to read the historical material and to pay special attention to the readings from The Jew in the Modern World. The classes will be divided up into short lectures on the weekly topics followed by discussions of the readings. To a large extent, the fruitfulness of these discussions will be determined by the care with which the readings are prepared.
A short mid-term will be given at the middle of the term as a take-home exam.

Main Texts: The Jew in the Modern World, Mendes-Flohr & Reinharz, Oxford Univ. Press, 1980.

Religion 331/2 - A (3 credits) W.F. 10:15-11:30
CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES: PERSONAL

David Howes, Lecturer

This course will begin with a brief introduction to mainstream western ethical theory (eg. Augustine, Kant) and move on to a consideration of its critics (eg. Freudian and Feminist challenges). In Part II, various issues in the field of medical ethics, such as abortion, genetic screening, behaviour modification and suicide will be examined, while in Part III the focus will be on the impact of the prevailing moral standards on the way in which we conceive of and experience our sexuality. Throughout the course, the emphasis will be on arriving at an informed and critical appreciation of the diverse perspectives that may be brought to bear on a given issue.

Requirements:

1. Two short (5-7 pages) essays on assigned topics.
2. A final take-home exam.

Texts:

George Grant, English-Speaking Justice, Toronto, House of Anansi, 1985 ($5.95)
A select array of journal articles.

Religion 332/4 - A (3 credits) W.F. 10:15-11:30
CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES: SOCIAL

David Howes, Lecturer

This course is designed to encourage the student to think critically about his or her conception of a "just society", the sources of that conception, and how it coheres with his or her experience of society. We will examine, among other things, the problem of our obsolete market mentality, equality and "reverse discrimination", self-determination, crime and punishment, environmental pollution and the arms race. While the issues are various, the main emphasis of the course will be on elaborating a single, unified theoretical framework within which these problems may be grasped.

Requirements:

1. Two short (5-7 page) essays on assigned topics.
2. A final take-home exam.

Texts:

Michael Ignatieff, The Needs of Strangers, Toronto, Penguin, 1983, ($8.95)
A select array of journal articles.

Religion 333/2 -AA (3 credits) T. 18:05-20:10

WOMEN AND RELIGION I

Norma Joseph, Lecturer

This course will focus on the complex and varied world of women in religion. In analyzing the role and image of women in religious systems, we will concentrate on tribal and non/industrialized societies. Topics such as women's ritual experiences, the matriarchy debate and goddess religion will be covered. Students will be encouraged to participate in discussion based on assigned readings. Please note that we will NOT discuss Christianity and Judaism.

Requirements: Review Essay; take-home final.

Main Texts:

Nancy Falk and Rita M. Gross (eds.), Unspoken Worlds: Women's Religious lives in Non-Western Cultures.
Carol Christ and Judith Plaskow (eds.), Womanspirit Rising: A Feminist Reader in Religion

Religion 334/4 -A (3 credits) T. 18:05-20:10
WOMEN AND RELIGION II

Martha J. Saunders, Lecturer

In this course we will focus on women's religious experiences and religious quest. We will do this by examining autobiographical writings and personal statements by women for whom religious tradition, symbols and images have been particularly meaningful in their lives. In particular we will ask how contemporary women and women in the past have responded to, used and changed religious symbols and expression for their own spiritual and personal growth. Religion will be viewed as a means of growth and development toward an inner sense of self-hood or identity, or, at times, as an obstacle in the quest for authenticity. While it can be said that all the major religious traditions are patriarchal in their structures and their forms, women have always succeeded in using, and transforming these structures and forms for their own growth. In this sense it can be said that women's religious lives have often been somewhat subversive. This has been true in the past, but is particularly so today, as contemporary religious women attempt to make religious traditions responsive to the feminist critique.

Required Texts:

Downing,C. The Goddess: Mythological Images of the Feminine
Day, D. The Long Loneliness
Morton, N. The Journey is Home
Xerox short selections to be distributed in class.

Assignments: Journal, Mid-term take home exam, final paper.

Religion 353/4 -01 (3 credits) M-W- 13:15-14:30
JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY: THE HISTORICAL ENCOUNTER. AN ANTHROPOLOGICAL APPROACH (LOY)

Professor Jack Lightstone

This course examines the relationships between Jews and Christians during the first four centuries of the rise of Christianity from small, local associations within Judaism to an imperial-like organization which functioned as the "official" religion of the Late Roman Empire. We will analyze the perceptions Jews and Christians had of one another. The course attempts to interpret and explain these perceptions as a function not only of the relations between Jews and Christians, and between Judaism and Christianity, but also of social developments within Jewish and Christian communities respectively. In short, this course will afford us the opportunity to examine a group's perception of "the other" in relation to that group's internal development and organization, including the community's sense of itself.

Requirements:

In addition to weekly reading, students will write take-home, mid-term and final examinations.

Texts (tentative):

Oxford Annotated Bible with Apocrypha
A.F. Segal, Rebecca's Children
G.P. Richardson, et al. Early Christian Anti-Judaism, 2 vols.

Religion 357/4 - ZA (3 credits) W. 18:30-20:30
HOLOCAUST: HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES (SBC)

Professor A. Eliashiv

This course will examine the historical circumstances that made possible the systematic destruction of European Jewry in the years 1939-45 as well as the process of destruction and the Jewish and world responses to the destruction.
Moral issues related to events during this period will be covered.

Requirements and texts will be announced the first class.

Religion 362/3 - AA (6 credits) T. 16:05-17:55
QUESTIONS FROM THE CHRISTIAN
TRADITION

Daniel Cere, Lecturer

A study of some of the major religious questions and controversies in the history of the Christian West. The questions chosen will vary, but examples are: grace and free will, faith and reason, history and eschatology, church and state, contemplation and action.

Requirements and texts will be announced in class.

Religion 370/3 - A (6 credits) M.W. 13:15-14:30
DEATH AND DYING

Professor Charles Davis

Some objectives of the course:
1. To stimulate and inform reflection on the many-faceted problem of death; 2. to make available to students the resources of the great religious traditions in dealing with the problem of death;to guide students in forming their own personal conception of death and in caring for others who are dying or in grief.

Requirements:

1. A take-home examination will be set in the last week of each term. 50% of grade.
2. A paper of 1500-2000 words on one of the topics listed will be written each term and submitted before the end of the term. 50% of the grade.

Book List:

S.G.Wilcox and M. Sutton, Understanding Death and Dying: An Interdisciplinary Approach
Philippe Aries, The Hour of Our Death
John Hick, Death and Eternal Life
Hans Kung, Eternal Life?
D. Maguire, Death by Choice
Lloyd Bailey, Biblical Perspectives on Death
Maurice Lamm, The Jewish Way in Death and Mourning

Book list and requirements to be announced at first class.

Religion 371/2 - AA (3 credits) T. 20:25-22:30
RELIGION AND HEALING

Professor John Rossner

An examination of the interaction between religious conceptions and practices on the one hand and healing arts on the other. The course considers such phenomena as: shamanism; healing and Christian shrines; native healing rites, folk medicine of the third world, modern spiritual healing groups; the contemporary dialogue between established forms of medicine, psychiatry and religion in the 20th century.

Requirements:

Regular class attendance and participation, suggested readings, one term research project and one final exam.

Book List:

Walter Addison Jayne, M.D., Healing Gods of Ancient Civilizations
George W. Meek, Healers and The Healing Process
Stanley R. Dean, M.D., Psychiatry and Mysticism
Harry Edwards, The Healing Intelligence
Nicholas Regush, Psi Healing
Ambrose and Olga Worrall, The Miracle Healers
Norman Shealey, M.D., Occult Medicine Can Save Your Life

Religion 373/4 - AA (3 credits) T.J. 14:45-16:00
COMPARATIVE MYSTICISM

Laurence Nixon, Lecturer

After an introductory survey of some eastern and western forms of mysticism, the course will consider the following: (1) the temperamental characteristics of potential mystics; (2) the goal of mysticism; (3) stages of mystical development; (4) the role of meditation; (5) the nature of mystical experience, including a comparison between mystical, sexual and drug experience; (6) differences and similarities between mystics, the mentally ill and creative persons.

Requirements:

One term paper and one final exam.

Text:

Ellwood, Robert S., Jr. Mysticism and Religion. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1980.

Reli 376/2-AA (3 credits) T. 18:05-20:10
RELIGION, MYTH AND MAGIC IN CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY

Professor John Rossner

An examination of the interaction and significance of religion, myth and magic in classical antiquity, in the East and the West, as discernable in such cultures as: Ancient Egypt, Babylon, India, China, Israel, Greece and Rome through the beginnings of the Christian era and the Medieval period.

Requirements:

Regular class attendance and participation, suggested readings, one term research project and one final exam.

Book List:

The following selected bibliography represents recommended reading, but not required texts.

Brian Inglis, Natural and Supernatural: A History of the Paranormal
Paul Christian, The History and Practice of Magic
Morton Kelsey, God, Dreams, and Revelations
Goffery Mishlove, The Roots of Consciousness
Original sources in the literature of classical antiquity.

Reli 377/4-AA (3 credits) T. 18:05-20:10
RELIGION AND OCCULT IDEAS IN MODERN HISTORY

Professor John Rossner

An examination of the basic ideas and cultural impact of occult traditions in the modern period from the so-called "Rosicrucian Enlightenment" in the 16th and 17th centuries, as described by Frances Yates, to the 19th and 20th century resurgence of occult themes in what Robert Elwood has called "an alternative reality tradition in the West".

Requirements:

Regular class attendance and participation, suggested readings, one term research project and one final exam.

Book List:

The following selected bibliography represents recommended reading, but not required texts:

Colin Wilson, The Occult: A History
Alta J. La Dage, Occult Psychology
Dane Rudhyar, Occult Preparations for a New Age
H. Blavatsky, An Abridgement of the Secret Doctrine
Francis Yates, The Rosicrucian Enlightenment
Geddes McGreggor, Gnosis: A Renaissance in Christian Humanism
R. Elwood, Jr., Religious and Spiritual Groups in Modern America

Religion 393/4 -A (3 credits) W.F. 11:45-13:00
SPECIAL TOPIC: POLITICS AND RELIGION IN ISLAM

Professor Sheila McDonough

The aim is to become familiar with the varieties of ways in which Muslims, individually and collectively, have undertaken to relate what they perceive to be the essential values of their cumulative tradition to the challenges of twentieth century existence. These new challenges include the political implications of adult suffrage, universal literacy, and the social transformations engendered by the industrial and scientific revolutions. The origins of Islam in the Qu'ran and the life of the Prophet will be discussed. The medieval political and religious traditions will be considered next. Finally, Saudi Arabia and Iran will be analysed.

Text: J. Esposito, Islam and Politics

Assignments: One in-class exam in February (40%) and a final exam (60%).

Recommended Reading:

M. Watt, Muhammad, Prophet and Statesman
J. Jomier, The Bible and the Koran
K. Gragg, The Event of the Qu'ran
K. Gragg, Counsels in Contemporary Islam
J. Esposito, Women in Muslim Law
S. McDonough, Muslim Ethics and Modernity
B. Lewis, Race and Colour in Islam

Religion 398R/2-ZA (3 credits) W. 20:30-22:30
SPECIAL TOPIC: ORTHODOX JUDAISM IN MODERN TIMES (SBC)

Professor Howard Joseph

This course will explore the career of ORTHODOX JUDAISM since the beginning of the modern era. The various groups who define themselves or are defined by others as being within Orthodoxy will be reviewed as well as the issues which concern them as a group. In addition to developing an historical perspective we hope to clarify the opinions within this movement on the general issue of modernization as well as in such areas as Zionism and science.

Requirements:

Each student should carefully prepare the assigned readings so that participation in in-class discussions can be productive. A formal assignment will be decided upon during the semester.

Text: To be announced.

Religion 398S/4-ZA (3 credits) W. 20:30-22:30
SPECIAL TOPIC: (SBC)
JUDAISM IN RELIGION AND SCIENCE

Professor Howard Joseph

An examination of the views of Jewish thinkers in the modern period about the methods and conclusions of science and their relation to religious teachings. Issues to be examined will include: the value of general knowledge, evolutionary theory, and the age of the universe.

Readings and requirements to be announced.

Religion 398T/2-A (3 credits) T. 10:15-11:30
SPECIAL TOPIC:
IMAGE AND REALITY: WOMEN IN ISRAEL

Norma Joseph, Lecturer

This course will focus on the complex issue of equality and inequality for women in Israel. For many years, the image of an Israeli woman holding a gun or driving a tractor has led many to assume that Israeli women have achieved liberation. However, the growth of feminist unrest raises serious doubts. Our aim will be to probe different areas of life in modern Israel in order to grasp the reality of women's position. We shall find that image and reality are at times on opposite scales and at other times quite accurate mirrors.

Requirements:

The class will be a combination of teacher and student input. Each student will choose one topic and present key issues and questions in class. At the end of term, a research paper on the same topic will be required. It is recommended that you read something general about the historical and social development of modern Israel.

Required Books:

Tiger, L. & J. Shepher. Women in the Kibbutz, 1975.
Rein, N. Daughters of Rachel, 1980.
Hazelton, L. Israeli Women, 1977.

There are many other books and magazine articles to be recommended which will be mentioned in class.

Religion 398U/2-AA (3 credits) W. 18:05-20:10
SPECIAL TOPIC:
ETHICS IN MEDICINE I

Dawson Schultz, Lecturer

Course outline not available.

Reli 398V/4-AA (3 credits) W. 18:0520:10
SPECIAL TOPIC:
ETHICS IN MEDICINE II

Dawson Schultz, Lecturer.

Course outline not available.